AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 94 and 106 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 95-103 and 105 and add new claim 107.

Listing of Claims:

1-94 (Cancelled)

95. (Currently amended): The isolated antibody or binding fragment thereof of claim 104 [[94]], wherein the isolated antibody or binding fragment thereof is a polyclonal antibody.

96. (Currently amended): The isolated antibody or binding fragment thereof of claim 104 [[94]], wherein the isolated antibody or binding fragment thereof is a monoclonal antibody.

97. (Currently amended): The isolated antibody or binding fragment thereof of claim 104 [[94]], wherein the isolated antibody or binding fragment thereof is a humanized antibody.

98. (Currently amended): The isolated antibody or binding fragment thereof of any one of claims 95-97 and 104 [[94-97]], wherein the antibody has an affinity of at least 10^{-7} M.

99. (Currently amended): The isolated antibody or binding fragment thereof of any one of claims 95-97 and 104 [[94-97]], wherein the antibody has an affinity of at least 10^{-8} M.

100. (Currently amended): A hybridoma that produces an antibody according to any one of claims 95-97 and 104 [[94-97]].

101. (Currently amended): A method of producing monoclonal antibodies, comprising:

(a) immunizing an animal with a TGF-beta binding protein or portion thereof, wherein said binding protein is selected from the group consisting of:

(i) a polypeptide encoded by a polynucleotide that comprises a nucleotide sequence selected from SEQ ID NOs:1, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, and 15, or a complementary sequence thereto, and

(ii) a polypeptide that comprises an amino acid sequence selected from SEQ ID NOs: 2, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, and 16;

(b) harvesting spleen cells from said animal;

(c) fusing said spleen cells with a myeloma cell line; and

(d) culturing said fused cells under conditions that allow the production of said antibody.

102. (Currently amended): A method for the production of an antibody of any one of claims 95-97 and 104 [[94-97]] comprising culturing hybridoma cells under conditions that allow the production of said antibody.

103. (Currently amended): A method for the production of an antibody, or binding fragment thereof, of any one of claims 95-97 and 104 [[94-97]] comprising:

(a) providing a recombinant host cell capable of producing said antibody; and

(b) culturing said cell under conditions that allow the production of said antibody.

104. (Previously presented): An isolated antibody or binding fragment thereof which binds to a TGF-beta binding protein, wherein said binding protein is selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a polypeptide encoded by a polynucleotide that comprises a nucleotide sequence selected from SEQ ID NOs:1, 5, 9, 11, 13, and 15, or a complementary sequence thereto, and

(b) a polypeptide that comprises an amino acid sequence selected from SEQ ID NOs: 2, 6, 10, 12, 14, and 16.

105. (Currently amended): An isolated antibody or binding fragment thereof which binds to a TGF-beta binding protein, wherein said binding protein is selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a polypeptide encoded by a polynucleotide that comprises a nucleotide sequence selected from SEQ ID NOs:1, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, and 15, or a complementary sequence thereto; and

(b) a polypeptide that comprises an amino acid sequence selected from SEQ ID NOs: 2, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, and 16. [[; and]]

~~(c) a polypeptide encoded by a polynucleotide having at least 90% identity with a full length sequence selected from SEQ ID NOs:1, 5, 9, 11, 13, and 15, or a complementary sequence thereto~~.

106. (Cancelled)

107. (New): A method for immunizing an animal comprising injecting an animal with a TGF-beta binding protein or portion thereof, wherein said binding protein is selected from the group consisting of:

(i) a polypeptide encoded by a polynucleotide that comprises a nucleotide sequence selected from SEQ ID NOs:1, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, and 15, or a complementary sequence thereto, and

(ii) a polypeptide that comprises an amino acid sequence selected from SEQ ID NOs: 2, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, and 16.